

Application No. 10/728,736
Amendment dated December 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph.

The first hinge assembly 12 is a rotational structure, which enables the knee brace 10 to track and stabilize motion of the knee joint 11 in a vertical plane. As such, the first hinge assembly 12 rotationally connects the lower end 32 of the first upper arm 28 12 and the upper end 22 of the first lower arm 14 about a first hinge pivot. The first hinge assembly 28 is termed a polycentric hinge assembly because the first hinge pivot has two distally separate pivot elements 68, 70, which enable cooperative rotation of the first upper arm 28 and the first lower arm 48 about two distally separate centers of rotation. In particular, the first hinge pivot has a first upper pivot element 68 positioned at an upper center of rotation, about which the first upper arm 28 rotates, and a first lower pivot element 70 positioned at a lower center of rotation, about which the first lower arm 48 rotates. The first upper and lower pivot elements 68, 70 are conventional rivets extending through the first hinge assembly 12. Alternatively, the first upper and/or lower pivot elements are a rivet of the type disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,807,294, incorporated herein by reference, which includes an adjustment member.